

**In the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently amended) A mobile communication system in which variable rate transmission is performed over a downlink radio channel among a base station control apparatus, a radio base station, and a mobile station, the radio base station comprising:
  - a transmission rate determining part for determining a transmission rate in accordance with a size of transmission data to the mobile station; and
  - a transmission power changing part for changing a transmission power of the transmission data in accordance with ~~an~~ a predicted error correction gain difference depending on the determined transmission rate.
2. (Original) The mobile communication system according to claim 1, wherein the transmission power changing part reduces the transmission power when the transmission rate is large, and increases the transmission power when the transmission rate is small.
3. (Previously presented) The mobile communication system according to claim 1, wherein variable rate control is performed by attaching rate information specifying a transmission rate by each transmission frame in accordance with the transmission data size among the base station control apparatus, the radio base station and the mobile station.
4. (Previously presented) The mobile communication system according to claim 1, wherein the mobile station includes a transmission rate determining part for estimating a transmission rate from a power distribution of a received signal.
5. (Previously presented) The mobile communication system according to claim 1, that is applicable to a CDMA (Code Division Multiple Access) radio network in which variable rate transmission is performed over a downlink channel.
6. (Currently amended) A radio base station that is allocated between a base station control apparatus and a mobile station, wherein variable rate transmission is performed over a downlink radio channel between the base station control apparatus and the mobile station, the radio base station comprising:

a transmission rate determining part for determining a transmission rate in accordance with a size of transmission data to the mobile station; and

a transmission power changing part for determining a transmission power of the transmission data in accordance with ~~an~~ a predicted error correction gain difference depending on the determined transmission rate.

7. (Original) The radio base station according to claim 6, wherein the transmission power changing part reduces the transmission power when the transmission rate is large, and increases the transmission power when the transmission rate is small.

8. (Previously presented) The radio base station according to claim 6, further comprising:

a transmission frame producing part for encoding the transmission data into a transmission frame; and

a transmitting part for transmitting the determined transmission rate and the encoded transmission frame in accordance with the determined transmission power.

9. (Previously presented) The radio base station according to claim 6, that is applicable to a CDMA (Code Division Multiple Access) radio network in which variable rate transmission is performed over a downlink radio channel.

10. (Currently amended) A transmission power control method for a mobile communication system in which variable rate transmission is performed over a downlink radio channel among a base station control apparatus, a radio base station and a mobile station, the method comprising the steps of:

determining a transmission rate in accordance with a size of transmission data to the mobile station; and

determining a transmission power of the transmission data in accordance with ~~an~~ a predicted error correction gain difference depending on the determined transmission rate.

11. (Original) The transmission power control method according to claim 10, wherein the step of determining the transmission power is carried out with reference to one or more tables prepared in advance that show the relations among the transmission data size, the error correction gain difference, and a change amount of the transmission power.

12. (Previously presented) The transmission power control method according to claim 10, wherein the step of determining the transmission power reduces the transmission power when the transmission rate is large, and increases the transmission power when the transmission rate is small.

13. (Previously presented) The transmission power control method according to claim 10, wherein variable rate control is performed by attaching rate information specifying a transmission rate by each transmission frame in accordance with the transmission data size among the base station control apparatus, the radio base station, and the mobile station.

14. (Previously presented) The transmission power control method according to claim 10, wherein a transmission rate is estimated at the mobile station from a power distribution of a received signal.

15. (Previously presented) The transmission power control method according to claim 10, that is applicable to a CDMA (Code Division Multiple Access) radio network in which variable rate transmission is performed over a downlink radio channel.

16. (Currently amended) A program for executing a transmission power control method in which variable rate transmission is performed over a downlink radio channel among a base station control apparatus, a radio base station and a mobile station, the program being executed in a computer at the radio base station, the program for making the computer to perform a processing for determining:

a transmission rate in accordance with a size of transmission data to the mobile station; and

a transmission power of transmission data in accordance with ~~an~~ a predicted error correction gain difference depending on the determined transmission rate.